


Proposal Evaluation Form

	EUROPEAN COMMISSION Programme for Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)	Evaluation Summary Report - LIFE
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Call: LIFE-2022-CET
Type of action: LIFE-PJG
Proposal number: 101121059
Proposal acronym: LIFE22-CET-Suburbia MICE
Duration (months): 36
Proposal title: Developing Multi-Impacts Community-owned Energy (MICE) projects in Suburbia
Activity: ENERCOM

N.	Proposer name	Country	Total eligible costs	%	Grant Requested	%
1	GREENFLEX	FR	402,668.82	23.47%	382,535.38	23.47%
2	LLC ET ASSOCIES BUREAU DE PARIS	FR	92,567.84	5.40%	87,939.45	5.40%
3	CY CERGY PARIS UNIVERSITE	FR	98,936.48	5.77%	93,989.66	5.77%
4	AGIRLOCAL	FR	34,196.98	1.99%	32,487.13	1.99%
5	VILLE DE CERGY	FR	54,049.98	3.15%	51,347.48	3.15%
6	R2M SOLUTION SRL	IT	382,204	22.28%	363,093.8	22.28%
7	Resolia	BE	194,324.84	11.33%	184,608.6	11.33%
8	Ville de La Louvière	BE	67,799.48	3.95%	64,409.51	3.95%
9	CLIMACT SA	BE	199,234	11.61%	189,272.3	11.61%
10	Collectif de La Roue	BE	23,628.98	1.38%	22,447.53	1.38%
11	FONDAZIONE SNAM	IT	55,333.98	3.23%	52,567.28	3.23%
12	Stichting Global Energiesprong Alliance	NL	56,617.98	3.30%	53,787.08	3.30%
13	ville de Jouy-le-Moutier	FR	54,049.98	3.15%	51,347.48	3.15%
Total:			1,715,613.34		1,629,832.68	

Abstract:

To be successful, the energy transition of Europe will have to embark all energy consumers (large companies, SMEs, public actors, citizens) in all territories (large metropolis, cities, rural areas, peri-urban areas). The future of energy will also be more decentralized, and energy communities have a key role to play in this. While community-owned energy projects have been emerging rapidly in isolated areas (villages in rural areas, islands, etc.) or in large metropolis' neighborhoods, we can observe they have been understudied in the context of peri-urban or suburban areas. Yet, energy dependency is high in these areas, for both heating and mobility needs (individual housing, use of private cars), and they represent a considerable "reservoir" for renewable energy deployment.

Suburbia MICE is a direct result of this observation and aims to facilitate and accelerate the development of multi-impacts energy communities in these suburban areas, by: providing integrated solutions encompassing all types of energy needs of the neighborhoods with 10 packages of standard, easily replicable energy solutions, exploring how to reduce these energy needs first, and planning a coherent and well-dimensioned new renewable energy production capacity. A consortium of 13 actors decided to gather their forces and expertise to provide these integrated solutions and contribute to this major objective for the European energy transition. Suburbia MICE will focus on 3 specific national contexts: France, Belgium and Italy. These 3 countries are today underrepresented in level of energy community activities compared to European leaders such as Germany, the Netherlands or Denmark.

Together, Suburbia MICE partners will build on already existing tools and solutions to create new ones that will answer the specific needs of community-owned energy projects in suburbs and unlock the potential of energy communities in these areas. Let's not speculate on the end of suburbia, let's repower it.

Evaluation Summary Report

Evaluation Result

Total score: 61.50 (Threshold: 55)

Score: **13.00** (Threshold: 10/20.00 , Weight: -)

The following aspects have been taken into account:

- **Relevance of the contribution to one or several of the specific objectives of the LIFE Programme and the targeted sub-programme.**
- **Extent to which the proposal is in line with the description included in the call for proposals, including, where relevant, its specific priorities.**
- **Concept and methodology: soundness of the overall intervention logic.**
- **Extent to which the proposal offers co-benefits and promotes synergies with other policy areas relevant for achieving environment and climate policy objectives.**

The goal of the proposal is to facilitate and accelerate the development of multi-impacts energy communities in suburban areas, by providing integrated solutions encompassing all types of energy needs of the neighbourhoods with 10 packages of standard, easily replicable energy solutions, exploring how to reduce these energy needs first, and planning a coherent and well-dimensioned new renewable energy production capacity.

The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.

The proposal is fully relevant and in line with the objectives of the LIFE Programme and more specifically with the Clean Energy Transition sub-programme which, among others, aims at involving and empowering citizens in the energy transition. The proposal is well in line with the objectives and scope B of the topic, as it will provide integrated solutions to local authorities and citizens organizations in order to facilitate and accelerate the development of multi-impact energy communities in suburban neighbourhoods.

The overall concept of the proposal is sound and solid, providing energy community developers (local authorities, citizen organisations) with tools and guidance that dramatically simplify their journey towards the decarbonisation of their neighbourhood. These tools and guidance will cover technical, economic & legal aspects of energy communities, based on standardised packages designed for key neighbourhoods located in suburban areas. This is good. The market barriers, needs and constraints of the targeted stakeholders are identified and listed regarding four groups of market actors. This is good.

Overall, the methodology of the proposal is well defined, including specific steps linked to the different Work Packages (WPs). Nevertheless, while certain elements enabling the engagement of energy communities are presented (e.g. workshops), the overall strategy is not clearly articulated, which is key for the topic. The proposal considers 6 pilot cases in 3 countries: France, Belgium and Italy. While 3 pilots are part of the consortium, which is good, it is not sufficiently clear that the consortium has the necessary support for the 3 remaining pilots (e.g. the locations of 2 pilots are not sufficiently specified), which is a central activity of the proposal. Also, the description of these pilots is not detailed enough (e.g. social and geographical context, current energy supply). These are shortcomings.

The involvement of relevant stakeholders is credible and is well described. In addition relevant stakeholders have been clearly identified and they have demonstrated their interest through Letters of Support. The proposal identifies several relevant EU projects and shows how it will take stock of them. This is very good.

Criterion 2 - Impact

Score: **15.00** (Threshold: 10/20.00 , Weight: 150.00%)

The following aspects have been taken into account:

- **Ambition and credibility of impacts expected during the project due to the activities, including ensuring that no substantial harm is done to the other specific objectives of the LIFE Programme.**
- **Sustainability of the project results after the end of the project.**
- **Quality of the measures for the exploitation of project results.**
- **Potential for the project results to be replicated in the same or other sectors or places, or to be up-scaled by public or private actors or through mobilising larger investments or financial resources (catalytic potential).**

The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

The proposal's main concrete outcomes are to deploy various tools adapted to 3 national contexts, to involve citizens and train 100 actors in energy community. The main expected impacts are addressing the objectives outlined in the topic description; they are credible and justified by the proposed activities, in particular the energy efficiency and renewable energy production Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are detailed, which is very good. Overall, the impacts are ambitious during the project and also 5 years after the project end. However, the number of citizens taking part in energy communities for 6 pilots is overestimated; in addition, the development of local community energy investment pipelines is not sufficiently quantified. The baselines, benchmarks and assumptions are described in a clear way. Nevertheless, some of the hypotheses considered are too optimistic (e.g. 80% of the houses installing a thermostat). These are shortcomings.

The sustainability of the proposal centred around desks open to the public is promising. However, the operation (e.g. sources of funding) of these desks after project completion is not fully explained. This is a shortcoming.

The work package on sustainability and exploitation of project results is relevant and clearly defined. The preliminary exploitation plan of the project is very convincing and the exploitation strategy gives a good overview of who will use the results and the type of exploitation. This is very good.

The replication potential of the project is very well described and also addresses the potential for replication in other countries and other market segments, also addressing the barriers which could limit the replication.

Criterion 3 - Quality

Score: **15.00** (Threshold: 10/20.00 , Weight: -)

The following aspects have been taken into account:

- **Clarity, relevance and feasibility of the work plan.**
- **Identification and mobilisation of the relevant stakeholders.**
- **Appropriate geographic focus of the activities.**
- **Quality of the plan to monitor and report impacts.**
- **Appropriateness and quality of the measures to communicate and disseminate the project and its results to different target groups.**

The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

The work plan is logically set out and most of the tasks are explained in a very comprehensive way. The various Work Packages (WP) as well as their key functions are well summarised in a PERT chart. The interrelation and feedback loops between different WPs are clearly highlighted. However, in some central tasks, the proposal fails to provide sufficient details on how the work will be carried out (e.g. T.2.3 the kind of data that will be collected, in T3.4 it is not fully clear how the various pilots will be implementing the developed tools and how related feedback will be collected). These are shortcomings. The timetable is clear, realistic and ambitious, and the overall duration of the project is fully justified. Deliverables and milestones (MS) are clearly described and relevant. This is good.

The mobilisation of stakeholders has overall been well addressed. However, some practical details are not sufficiently explained (e.g. T.2.1 how many workshops with what kind of stakeholders). This is a shortcoming. The geographic focus is clear and consistent with the objectives of the proposal.

The proposal foresees several activities for the impact monitoring and reporting (e.g. WP1, WP 2 and WP3), describes the governance for the monitoring of the project impact, and foresees a dedicated impact committee. This is very good.

The communication and dissemination measures are well described, including target audiences, dissemination activities and KPIs.

Criterion 4 - Resources

The following aspects have been taken into account:

- **Composition of the consortium in terms of expertise, skills and responsibilities and appropriateness of the management structure.**
- **Appropriateness of the budget and resources and their consistency with the work plan.**
- **Transparency of the budget, i.e. the cost items should be sufficiently described.**
- **Extent to which the project environmental impact is considered and mitigated, including through the use of green procurement. The use of recognised methods for the calculation of the project environmental footprint (e.g. PEF or OEF methods or similar ones, such as [PEFCRs/OEFSRs](#)) or environmental management systems (e.g. EMAS) would be an asset.**
- **Value for money of the proposal.**

The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.

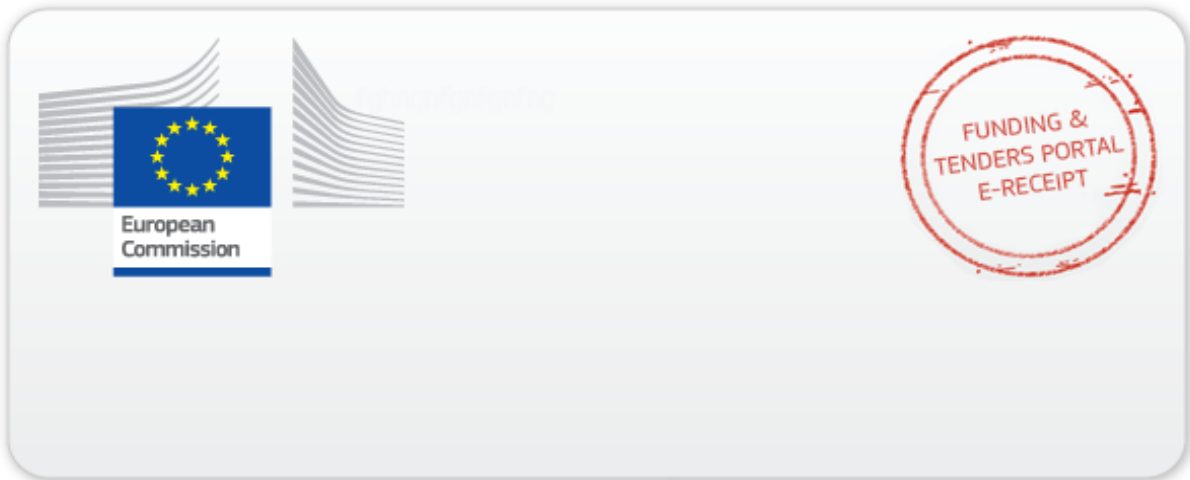
The consortium is composed of 13 complementary partners, whose roles are well defined, and the consortium covers the necessary expertise needed for carrying out the proposed action, ranging from project management to know-how on energy communities, which is very good.

The allocation of tasks to the partners is well in line with their role and expertise mentioned in the work plan. Nevertheless, the absence of some partner citizen organisations (e.g. Agir Local or Collectif de la Roue) in the WP3 Implementation toolkit "MICE communities in a box" for local authorities and citizens has not been sufficiently justified. This is a shortcoming.

The management structure and procedures are well described, and the risk management chart covers some of the main issues that could occur, with reasonable mitigation measures. However, several risks have not been sufficiently taken into account, such as a possible delay in setting up the platforms, difficulties in involving the pilots in Italy, difficulties to involve citizen associations or recruit citizens. This is a shortcoming.

The requested person months are generally justified and well in line with the work programme presented. However, the person months (PMs) provided to the municipalities for the implementation toolkit (WP3) is underestimated and not well explained. Additionally, the PM dedicated to WP2 are high compared with the PM for WP3, with the latter focusing on central activities in the proposal. These are shortcomings.

The overall budget and costs are clear and adequate to ensure the achievement of the proposed activities. However, costs for the organisation of meetings are not always sufficiently considered. This is a shortcoming.



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